GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2435
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2000
FOREST COVER IN U.P.
JAI BHADRA SINGH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Forests grow on paper in Uttar Pradesh` appearing in the Times of India, dated July 10, 2000;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the dense forest cover of Uttar Pradesh is depleting;

(d) if so, whether any forest survey has been conducted recently;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the survey;

(f) the amount spent in planting two billion sapplings over the years;
(g) whether felling of trees illegally in the Teria region including Gorakhpur, Gonda, Bahraich, Nainital, Almora and Dehradun has been a major source of concern over the years; and
(h) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make the State green?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) & (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c),(d) & (e) Forest Survey of India has been assessing forest cover of the country biennially since 1987 using satellite data. As per the State of Report, 1999, forest cover in Uttar Pradesh has increased by 22 sq.km and dense forest has decreased by 56 sq.km.

(f),(g) & (h) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.